

Remarks/Arguments:

Claims 1-20 are pending in the application and were examined. Claims 1-8 and 11-18 are allowed, and Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter. Claims 9 and 19 are amended herein, without the addition of new matter. Support for the amendments can be found throughout the specification, for example, at paragraphs [0067], [0068], and [0112].

Claims 9, 10, 19, and 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph for alleged lack of enablement. The office action states that the claims require that the nucleic acid be the immunogen. The amended claims clarify that the immunogenic composition comprises an expression vector, which the office action acknowledges is utilized in gene immunization, and described throughout the specification. It is believed that the amendments obviate the rejection.

Applicants request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections in view of the amendments and arguments made herein. A notice of allowability for all claims is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned if it is believed that a teleconference would facilitate allowance of the application.

Respectfully submitted,

/Brian A. Cocca/

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Dated: February 26, 2008

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The Director is hereby authorized to charge or credit Deposit Account No. **18-0350** for any additional fees, or any underpayment or credit for overpayment in connection herewith.